

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 13-57 are pending, with claims 1, 20, 25, 26, and 39 being independent. Claims 1-4, 7, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, 25, and 26 have been amended. Claims 27-57 have been added. Support for the present amendments and the new claims may be found in the application at, for example, page 3, line 19 to page 9, line 13 and FIGS. 2A-2C. No new matter has been introduced.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,571,290 (“Selgas”). Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 20, 25, and 26 to overcome this rejection.

As amended, claim 1 recites a computer-implemented method for modifying network configuration information on a client node. The method includes establishing a network connection between a client node and a host node using at least one network configuration parameter. The method also includes accessing configuration history information describing parameters of a previous and no longer active network connection between the client node and the host node and accessing policy information including a desired network connection performance rule. Furthermore, the method includes using the configuration history information along with the policy information to determine whether at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the desired network connection performance rule. And, if it is determined that the at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the desired network connection performance rule, modifying the at least one network configuration parameter used to establish the network connection between the client node and the host node.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims because Selgas fails to describe or suggest at least “using the configuration history information along with the policy information to determine whether at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the

desired network connection performance rule; and if it is determined that the at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the desired network connection performance rule, modifying the at least one network configuration parameter used to establish the network connection between the client node and the host node," as recited in claim 1.

Selgas describes a system enabling the client to access one of several ISPs. Col. 5, lines 50-57 and col. 8, lines 32-35. Referring to FIG. 1 of Selgas, the user (110) accesses the Internet (100) via one of the predetermined ISPs (102). Col. 6, lines 40-42. After the user (110) accesses the Internet (100) via one of the predetermined ISPs, the client dispatch application (200) resident on the user's computer transmits a data message to the access service (106) through the Internet (100). Col. 7, lines 32-36. In response to the received data message, the access service (106) transmits to the user's computer an access information data message that includes access information for a particular ISP. Col. 7, lines 53-59. After receiving the access information, the client dispatch application (200) disconnects the user from the current ISP (102) and automatically dials and reconnects the user to the desired ISP. Col. 8, lines 9-13. If, however, the current ISP and the specified ISP are the same, the client dispatch application (200) will not disconnect the user (100) and the user's session will continue uninterrupted. Col. 8, lines 17-21.

Notably, Selgas does not describe or suggest accessing configuration history information describing parameters of a previous and no longer active network connection between the client node and the host node and using this information as a basis to determine whether or not to modify the at least one network configuration parameter used to establish the network connection between the client node and the host node. Instead, and as acknowledged by the Office Action, Selgas relies on access service (106) to provide access information to the client, enabling the client to access one of several ISP based on the attributes such as, cost, location, availability, and reliability. Office Action, page 4, lines 5-7 and col. 8, lines 32-54 (stating, "[b]ased on the geographic location of the user (100), the access service (106) identifies, to the user (110a), one or more ISPs (102) that provide local access availability ... and provides the user with information needed to access one of the identified ISPs").

Accordingly, Selgas fails to describe or suggest “using the configuration history information along with the policy information to determine whether at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the desired network connection performance rule and if it is determined that the at least one of the parameters of the previous and no longer active network connection fails to satisfy the desired network connection performance rule, modifying the at least one network configuration parameter used to establish the network connection between the client node and the host node,” as recited in claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, along with its dependent claims.

Independent claims 20, 25, and 26 have been amended to include features similar to the above-recited features of claim 1. Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 20, 25, and 26, along with their dependent claims.

New Claim

Independent claim 39 also includes features similar to the above-recited features of claim 1. Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claim 39, along with its dependent claims.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the

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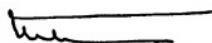
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amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

The fee in the amount of \$1,720 in payment of excess claims fees (\$1,600) and a one-month extension of time (\$120) is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization.

Respectfully submitted,

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